(b) the details of units of power generated from those projects; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken to encourage setting up of similar wind power projects in other States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) An aggregate wind power capacity of 1278 MW has been installed through commercial projects by private sector in seven States, namely, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu, as on 31st March, 2001.

(b) About 6,500 million units of energy have been generated from those projects.

(c) Under the Wind Resource Assessment Programme, 208 potential sites have been identified in 13 States and UTs. A Centre for Wind Energy Technology (C-WET) has been established in Chennai to provide technical support for wind power development. Fiscal and promotional incentives are also being provided, and soft loans are available for commercial projects from Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA). In order to promote commercial development, the State Governments have been requested to announce conducive policies for grid connection and sale of electricity generated from wind power projects.

Increasing demand for energy in A.P.

3265. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand for Energy is constantly increasing in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, what efforts are being made to promote alternative resources of Energy;

(c) whether any survey has been carried out to explore the potentiality of wind energy in the State;

(d) if so, the details of the outcome of the survey; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A capacity of 305 MW has already been installed in the State from non-conventional energy sources, such as wind, biomass, small hydro and urban and industrial wastes. Resource assessment studies are being undertaken to assess the total potential of these resources. The State Government has announced a policy for promotion of non-conventional energy sources in the State, including wheeling, banking and buy-back of power from these projects.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. Under the National Programme, wind monitoring studies were carried out at 60 locations in the State to identify suitable sites and assess the wind power potential. Based on the surveys conducted, a potential of 750 MW has been estimated, out of which a wind power capacity of 92 has already been established in the State.

Purchasing power by SEBs from DPC

3266. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government propose to persuade State Electricity Boards and others to purchase power from Dabhol power company as a step towards settlement of the crisis; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the Central Electricity Authority had held discussions with States to explore the possibility of their buying Dabhol power. The details of the quantum of power and acceptable tariff, etc. have also been discussed with the States by the Negotiating Committee set up by the Government of Maharashtra, who are required to take the final decision in the matter.

Bungling by officers of THDC

†3267. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ten officers of Tehri Hydro Development Corporation have been involved in the irregularities concerning the excavation of chute spillway of Tehri Dam;

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†*Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.*